

Jonathan Boucher to George Washington, July 20, 1769, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM THE REVEREND JONATHAN BOUCHER.

CAROLINE 20th. July 1769

SIR

In Consequence of your Lr., Mastr. Custis now waits on You; & as this is a pretty busy Time with Us in School, I shall be glad He may set off back again at ye. same Time You do for the Springs.

Enclosed You have his Acct. for ye. last Year, which as You were so obliging as to offer Me when I was at Mount Vernon, I will beg ye. Fav. of You now to send by Jack. I hope it will not appear too high to You; it being just what I charged ye. only Boy (Mr. Turner) I ever had living wth. Me in ye. same Manner He does. For my own Part, I must own to You, I charge his Horses merely by Guess, havg. never very nearly attended to ye. Expence of maintaing. a Horse: Those I have mentioned ye. Matter to here, think it too low: You, probably, may have had Occasion to consider ye. Matter, & therefore I beg Leave to refer it entirely to yr.self. I have yet to mention to You on this Subjt., that, persuaded by my own Experience, I have lately come to a Resolun. of takg. no more Boys for less than £25 perr. Ann: There are now four upon these Terms, & more expected soon. Unless therefore You object to it in Time, You must expect next Year to find your Son charged so too.

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I have a Pleasure in informing You that I please Myself wth. thinking We now do much better than formerly: You will remr. my havg. complain'd of Jack's Laziness, which, however, I now hope is not incurable. For I find He will bear driving, which heretofore I us'd to fear He would not. He has met wth. more Rigr. since I saw You than in all ye. Time before, & He is the better for it. This I mean only as to his Books; in other Matters He is faultless. His new Boy too is infinitely fitter, for him than Julius; & if He be not spoil'd here, which, in Truth, there is some Danger of, You & He & I too will all have Cause to be pleas'd at his having made ye. Exchange.

Miss Boucher was very intent on going to the Springs, but being now convinced that she cannot, consistent wth. Associae. Principles, She is contented to drop it. She begs her respectful Compts. to Mrs. Washington & Miss Custis may be join'd to Mine, heartily wishing Them as well an agreeable Jaunt, as that They may reap all the Benefit They expect from the Waters.

I am, Sir, very respectfully Yr. most obedt. & most Hble Servt. JONAN. BOUCHER

I had forgot that the Dancing School is to be at this House next Friday. He has already miss'd two, & shd. not therefore, I think neglect attending this. J. B.